

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

OASIS

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference BP109193/TN/SPO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/FI2004/050104	International filing date (day/month/year) 24.06.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 27.06.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04Q7/38		
Applicant Nokia Corporation et al		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:

sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 27.04.2005	Date of completion of this report 02.09.2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 667 72 88	Authorized officer Roland Landström /OGU Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/FI2004/050104

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:

the international application in the language in which it was filed
 a translation of the international application into _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))
 international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:

pages 1 - 10 received by this Authority on _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____

pages* 11 - 12 received by this Authority on 27.04.2005 as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

pages 1 - 3 received by this Authority on _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/FI2004/050104

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims

1 - 12

YES

Claims

NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims

1 - 12

YES

Claims

NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims

1 - 12

YES

Claims

NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: US 20020130774 A1
- D2: WO 0143483 A1
- D3: EP 1035746 A1
- D4: GB 2371907 A
- D5: US 20030134627 A1
- D6: WO 9918745 A1
- D7: GB 2329794 A
- D8: US 20020090931 A1
- D9: US 20020039896 A1

The invention is intended to provide a method and a device for prevention of undesirable functions.

Document D1 (chapters 0021 - 0048, figures 1 - 2, abstract) discloses a control device (20) that controls undesirable emissions from devices (40), for example portable computers, mobile phones and hand held organizers, by transmitting radio signals to the devices (40). The signals can either be control signals that require the devices (40) to operate at a reduced functionality (a single functionality or two or more discrete functionalities, see chapter 0025), or warning signals indicating an acceptable level of functionality for the devices (40). A warning signal may require a device (40) to generate a warning receivable by the user of the device (40), and allows users to voluntarily take corrective actions. According to chapter 0040, the warning signal for a personal computer could require the personal computer to display a warning message on the personal computer's display screen. A mobile phone receives a voice message. According to chapter 0042, the control device (20) can transmit signals notifying the devices (40) of relaxed functionality restrictions on the devices (40).

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.
Continuation of: Box V

1 (2)

Documents D2 - D9 (below) show a similar art.

Document D2 (page 1, line 1 - page 8, line 8, figures 1 - 3B, abstract) discloses a method for preventing the use of a mobile telephone. A short range (Bluetooth) radio transmitter (13, claim 5) transmits a command to turn mobile telephones off, switch to short distance radio for communication or a message to the users of the mobile telephones to remind the users that the mobile telephones should be turned off.

Document D3 (column 1, line 1 - column 9, line 20, figures 1 - 3, abstract) discloses a radio transmitter (Bluetooth 200) that transmits a protection signal to a mobile terminal (300) having a receiver that is arranged to switch off the radio part of the mobile terminal (300).

Document D4 (page 1, line 1 - page 9, line 12, figures 1 - 2, abstract) discloses a method for restricting and re-enabling the use of a portable camera. A radio transmitter (16) transmits a command to a receiver (12) in the camera to disable or re-enable one or more functions of the camera.

Document D5 (chapter 0030 - 0066, figures 1 - 11, abstract) discloses a method for limiting the use of a mobile electronic device, for example a mobile phone (10, 20, 40) or a digital camera. A wireless transmitter (130) transmits a command to disable one or more features of the mobile electronic device. According to chapter 0052, a message is transmitted to the mobile electronic device releasing all or certain features.

Document D6 (page 1, line 1 - page 13, line 22, figures 1 - 7, abstract) discloses a method for switching off or reactivating a selected function in an electronic device, for example a mobile phone, when a command is received by a radio receiver.

Document D7 (page 1, line 1 - page 4, line 6, figures 1 - 3, abstract) discloses a mobile telephone (2) with a radio receiver (4) for receiving a disabling or enabling signal sent from a transmitter (13). The mobile telephone (2) may be partially disabled.

Document D8 (chapters 0005 - 0025, figures 1 - 2, abstract) discloses a wireless phone with a button or switch (320) for partially disabling the phone.

.../...

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.
Continuation of: Box V

2 (2)

Document D9: US 20020039896 A1 (chapters 0006 - 0029, figures 1 - 3, abstract) discloses a mobile phone (100) having a radio receiver (RFA, RFB) for receiving a disabling or enabling signal sent from a short-range transmitter (10, 12). The mobile phone (100) is disabled with or without the consent of the user (chapter 0028).

None of the cited documents reveals the use of a received executable blocking key that is activated by programmable means in the device. Therefore, the invention defined in claims 1 - 12 is not disclosed by any of these documents.

The cited prior art does not give any indication that would lead a person skilled in the art to the claimed method and device. Therefore, the claimed invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Accordingly, the invention defined in claims 1 - 12 is novel and is considered to involve an inventive step. The invention is industrially applicable.

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

According to the independent claim 6, a blocking key is received via a wireless connection. However, according to dependent claim 10, the blocking key is received via a cable (connection). Claim 10 comprises all the features of claim 6 and is therefore not appropriately formulated as a claim dependent on the latter (Rule 6.4 PCT).

Claims

1. A method for temporarily blocking a function in a portable device, characterized in that in the device there is received via a wireless connection an executable blocking key (201) for blocking a certain function of the device, and that the received blocking key is activated (204) by programmable means in the device in order to prevent the certain function of the device.
5
2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that in the device there is received an unblocking key (206) that cancels the blocking key, and that the received unblocking key is activated (209) in the device in order to release the function of the device that was blocked.
10
3. A method according to any of the claims 1–2, characterized in that the blocking or unblocking key is received in the device through a wireless, short-range connection (104, 304), or in message form (110).
4. A method according to any of the claims 1–3, characterized in that in the device, there is displayed a confirmation request (202, 207), and that the received blocking or unblocking key is activated (204, 209) in the device as a response to feeding in the confirmation.
15
5. A method according to any of the claims 1–4, characterized in that the blocking key is used for temporarily blocking (205) a certain undesirable function of the device for the duration, until there is received an unblocking key (206), and by activating (209) said unblocking key (206) the blocked function is released (210) to function in the way it functioned before the activation of the blocking key.
20
6. A portable device containing segments for realizing the device functions, characterized in that the device includes means for receiving via a wireless connection an executable blocking key for blocking a certain function (103, 104, 110, 303, 304), and programmable means for activating (306) the received blocking key in the device in order to prevent the function of a certain segment thereof.
25
7. A portable device according to claim 6, characterized in that it includes means for receiving (103, 104, 110, 303, 304) an unblocking key for releasing the function blocked by the blocking key, and means for activating (306) the received unblocking key in the device in order to release the function that was prevented by the blocking key.
30

8. A portable device according to any of the claims 6–7, characterized in that it includes means for receiving a blocking key and/or an unblocking key transmitted along a wireless, short-range connection (104, 304).
9. A portable device according to any of the claims 6–8, characterized in that it includes means for receiving blocking key and/or an unblocking key of a message-form transmitted through a message service center (110).
5
10. A portable device according to any of the claims 6–9, characterized in that it includes means for receiving a blocking key and/or an unblocking key via a stationary cable connection (103, 303).
- 10 11. A portable device according to any of the claims 6–9, characterized in that it includes means for displaying a confirmation request (120, 320) and for feeding in a confirmation (102, 302) before the received blocking or unblocking key is activated in the device.
- 15 12. A portable device according to any of the claims 6–10, characterized in that it includes program means (306) for processing the blocking and unblocking keys.